

# Getting Rid of Pigeons



Some helpful advice about how to get rid of pigeons.



**Pigeons are very difficult to relocate once they have found a home. It is best to take action early so they don't become comfortable roosting on your home or any homes in your neighborhood.**

Obviously, once one property owner has successfully pigeon-proofed a property, it will be in the best interests of adjoining property owners to pigeon-proof also in order to prevent the pigeons from simply shifting residences. If only pigeon proofing is used, pigeons will merely move from one building to the next.

The solution to pigeon population control lies in controlling and removing food sources and the places in which food is available to the pigeons.

Over time, coupled with the cleanup costs for buildings and homes that are bombarded with droppings from populations that never seem to go down, the cost of pigeon proofing your home can seem inexpensive.

If a few neighbors hire a pigeon expert to pigeon proof their homes at the same time, they should be able to get a great deal on the price.



One final option is to find out where the pigeons nest and switch out their eggs for fake eggs. The adult birds will continue sitting on the eggs for a long period of time trying to hatch the eggs. This keeps them from producing as many eggs and babies throughout each year. As you can imagine, trading out eggs is very difficult if you can even get to their nests.

When all else fails, call a professional pest control agency to help you and your neighbors professionally alleviate your pigeon problems.

No county in Arizona will assist with wildlife control situations, and there is no free Phoenix animal control services for wildlife.

**Maricopa County Animal Services: 602-506-7387**

**Maricopa County Department of Public Health**

Calls on accumulated feces, the presence of flies and/or odors

Phone: 602.506.6900  
Fax: 602.506.6885

**The Town of Buckeye contracts with Maricopa County Animal Control to serve Buckeye!**

## Seven Basic Steps to Getting Rid of Pigeons

- 1. Don't let the pigeons land.** If your roof or deck or balcony is uncomfortable for the pigeons' feet, they won't land there. There are spike strips available at your local hardware store or home Improvement center. Any place that pigeons land or perch can be covered with spike strips or wrapped with wire, which will make them look for more comfortable surroundings.
- 2. Buy pigeon repellent,** a chemical used to remove pigeons from a certain place. It can be a good option; however, as with any chemical, this practice can be dangerous. Read the directions and warnings thoroughly before proceeding.
- 3. Use a water hose** to spray roosting pigeons to temporarily scare them away. Continue spraying on a regular basis, and eventually the pigeons will move to a new roosting location. Do not allow any pigeons to roost at any time for maximum effect.

- 4. Hang aluminum pie pans** from string in the roosts to scare away the pigeons. Put out a plastic owl, rubber snake or scarecrow. Put them in a location that receives bright sunlight to maximize the effect. The reflecting sunlight and noise caused by the pie pans will scare away any potential roosting pigeons.
- 5. Remove food sources.** Keep your garbage inside the home or tightly lidded. If pigeons are finding feasts on your property they are not likely to want to leave for very long. Do not feed the pigeons.
- 6. Dry up any standing water** that may be attracting animals, including pigeons. Remove any food that the pigeons may be eating. If the population of pigeons is high, there's most likely a good reason for that to be the case.
- 7. Block off their nesting areas.** You may have eaves or nooks in your home that are attractive to nesting pigeons. You can block these areas off with screen or chicken wire so they will not be able to nest. If pigeons like to nest in your drains be sure to cover those with wire also or you may end up with a water problem. Destroy pigeon nests once every two weeks during spring and summer to cause the birds to relocate to a safer area. Use a long pole with a hook fastened to the end to reach high nests. The following year, the pigeons will not return to the same location.

**Spikes, Netting and Wire Mesh** keep Pigeons from landing and nesting



**Perching Gels**—Perching gel does not burn, hurt or trap pigeons, it is more like you or I stepping on a piece of bubble gum. We would start hopping around in an attempt to dislodge the gooey mess from our feet.



**BIRD-LITE** sends out intimidating, intense white, red, blue and amber light at 75 flashes per minute. One-million-candlepower light pulses (and the frightening shadows they create) at this frequency are intolerable and disorienting to birds, causing them to fly away from the source of annoyance.

**Electric Tape** This simply shocks the bird and makes it uncomfortable enough to stop landing in areas that have the tape. Eventually the bird finds another roosting or nesting area



**Bird Wire:** These wires are simply extended across all landing surfaces and pigeons must go someplace else to land.